

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

WILLIE DENNIS,

*Defendant.*

~~Proposed~~ Protective Order

20 Cr. 623 (LGS)

Upon the application of the United States of America, with the consent of the undersigned counsel, and the defendant having requested discovery under Fed. R. Crim. P. 16, the Court hereby finds and orders as follows:

1. **Disclosure Material.** The Government will make disclosure to the defendant of documents, objects and information, including electronically stored information (“ESI”), pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16, 18 U.S.C. § 3500, and the Government’s general obligation to produce exculpatory and impeachment material in criminal cases, all of which will be referred to herein as “disclosure material.” The Government’s disclosure material may include material that (1) affects the privacy and confidentiality of individuals and entities; (2) would impede, if prematurely disclosed, the Government’s ongoing investigation of additional, uncharged crimes; and (3) is not authorized to be disclosed to the public or disclosed beyond that which is necessary for the defense of this criminal case.

2. **Confidential Material.** Certain of the Government’s disclosure material, referred to herein as “Confidential Material,” contains information that identifies, or could lead to the identification of, victims and witnesses who may be subject to intimidation, and whose lives, persons, and property, as well as the lives, persons and property of loved ones, will be subject to risk of harm absent the protective considerations set forth herein. Materials to be produced by the

Government and which contain Confidential Material may be designated as “Confidential Material” by the Government and conspicuously marked as such, either by marking the materials themselves; the file names of the materials; or the folders containing the materials, with the words “Confidential Material.” The Government’s designation of material as Confidential Material will be controlling absent contrary order of the Court.

3. **Facilitation of Discovery.** The entry of a protective order in this case will permit the Government to produce expeditiously the disclosure material without further litigation or the need for substantial redaction. It will also afford the defense prompt access to those materials, in substantially unredacted form, which will facilitate the preparation of the defense. In the event that counsel for the Government and counsel for the defendant are unable to agree whether specific redactions are appropriate, the matter will be presented to the Court for resolution.

4. **Good Cause.** There is good cause for entry of the protective order set forth herein.

**Accordingly it is hereby Ordered:**

5. Disclosure material shall not be disclosed by the defendant or defense counsel, including any successor counsel (“the defense”) other than as set forth herein, and shall be used by the defense solely for purposes of defending this action. The defense shall not post any disclosure material on any Internet site or network site to which persons other than the parties hereto have access,<sup>1</sup> and shall not disclose any disclosure material to the media or any third party except as set forth below.

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<sup>1</sup> This does not prohibit counsel for the defendant from using secure private web services, such as “Drop Box,” to store disclosure material or Confidential Material, provided that the only people

6. Disclosure material that is not Confidential Material may be disclosed by counsel to: (a) the defendant for purposes of defending this action, (b) personnel for whose conduct counsel is responsible, *i.e.*, personnel employed by or retained by counsel, as needed for purposes of defending this action; or (c) prospective witnesses for purposes of defending this action.

7. Confidential Material may be disclosed by counsel to the defendant and to personnel for whose conduct counsel is responsible, *i.e.*, personnel employed by or retained by counsel, as needed for purposes of defending this action; however, Confidential Material shall be kept in the sole possession of counsel or personnel for whose conduct counsel is responsible; shall not be reviewed or maintained by the defendant outside the presence of counsel or personnel for whose conduct counsel is responsible (except when a defendant is reviewing Confidential Material at counsel's office); and shall not be copied or otherwise recorded by the defendant.

8. The Government may authorize, in writing, disclosure of disclosure material and Confidential Material beyond that otherwise permitted by this Order without further Order of this Court.

9. This Order does not prevent the disclosure of any disclosure material in any hearing or trial held in this action, or to any judge or magistrate judge, for purposes of this action. However, Confidential Material pertinent to any motion before the Court should initially be filed under seal, absent consent of the Government or Order of the Court. All filings should comply with the privacy protection provisions of Fed. R. Crim. P. 49.1.

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with access to such services are those authorized herein to receive disclosure material or Confidential Material, or to transfer such material to such authorized recipients.

**Return or Destruction of Material**

10. Except for disclosure material that has been made part of the record of this case, the defense shall return to the Government or securely destroy or delete all disclosure material within 30 days of the expiration of the period for direct appeal from any verdict in the above-captioned case; the period of direct appeal from any order dismissing any of the charges in the above-captioned case; or the granting of any motion made on behalf of the Government dismissing any charges in the above-captioned case, whichever date is later, subject to defense counsel's obligation to retain client files under the Rules of Professional Conduct. This provision does not apply to any disclosure material or ESI that belongs to the defendant, except that, unless the defendant is acquitted, the defendant may not disseminate any of his communications with victims that form the basis of the charges in this case.

11. The defense shall provide a copy of this Order to prospective witnesses and persons retained by counsel to whom the defense has disclosed disclosure material. All such persons shall be subject to the terms of this Order. Defense counsel shall maintain a record of what information has been disclosed to which such persons.

**Clawback Provision**


12. The inadvertent production of privileged material that belongs to a third party is not a waiver in this case or in any other context. Information that contains privileged matter or attorney work product shall be immediately returned if such information appears on its face to have been inadvertently produced.

**Retention of Jurisdiction**

13. The provisions of this order shall not terminate at the conclusion of this criminal prosecution and the Court will retain jurisdiction to enforce this Order following termination of the case.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

DAMIAN WILLIAMS  
United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York

by:   
Sarah L. Kushner  
Assistant United States Attorney

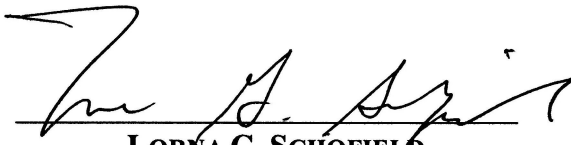
Date: January 17, 2022

/s/ Neil P. Kelly  
Neil Kelly, Esq.  
Counsel for Willie Dennis

Date: January 17, 2022

SO ORDERED:

Dated: New York, New York  
February 3, 2022

  
**LORNA G. SCHOFIELD**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**